Model villages in U.P.

710. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any villages have been selected in different States as model villages for all-round and intensive development;

(b) if so, the number of such villages selected in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) what is the investment proposed for the above villages and the time-schedules drawn up for the implementation of the development programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c) There is no Central or Centrally sponsored Scheme in the Ministry of Agriculture for selection of model villages for all-round and intensive development.

Burning of paddy in Punjab

711. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware that the paddy growers in Punjab are burning paddy due to non-purchase by the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether it is a fact that in various States paddy is being sold below support price, fixed by Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Punjab proposes to diversify agriculture from next year as the Food Corporation of India is failing to procure paddy; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to procure all the paddy coming in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Reports on burning of paddy in Punjab were received by the Central Government and referred to the State Government for investigation. The State Government has reported that, on verification, it was found that it was only paddy straw that was burnt. All the paddy conforming to the prescribed specifications, brought to the *mandis* and offerred for sale at its purchase points have been purchased in Punjab by the Food Corporation of India.

(b) No, Sir. The Government has received no reports of paddy of fair average quality standard and conforming to prescribed specifications being sold at prices lower than the support price.

(c) and (d) As on 19-11-85 the FCI have purchased 16.74 lakh tonnes of paddy in Punjab.

Setting up of Forest Universities

712. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up Forest Universities in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Annual consumption of fertilizers in U.P.

713. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual consumption of fertilizers in Uttar Pradesh; and